

**FEBRUARY 2023
ANNUAL REPORT**

SAFEPLAN

**SUBMITTED BY
THE VICTIM AND WITNESS
ASSISTANCE BOARD**

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VICTIM ASSISTANCE (MOVA)**

Massachusetts Office For Victim Assistance

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Preface

This report on the SAFEPLAN program, Massachusetts's domestic and sexual violence civil court advocacy program administered by the Massachusetts Office for Victim Assistance (MOVA), is submitted to the Massachusetts House and Senate Committees on Ways and Means as required by the FY23 Massachusetts General Appropriations Act (**0840-0101**), which states:

For the salaries and administration of the SAFEPLAN advocacy program to be administered by the Massachusetts office for victim assistance; provided, that not later than February 1, 2023, the office shall submit a report to the house and senate committees on ways and means detailing the effectiveness of contracting for the program including, but not limited to, the: (i) expansion of the program's services to new courthouses throughout the commonwealth; (ii) number and types of incidents to which the advocates responded; (iii) types of services and service referrals provided by the domestic violence advocates; (iv) cost of providing such services; and (v) extent of coordination with other service providers and state agencies; and provided further, that SAFEPLAN services shall at least be maintained at the levels provided in fiscal year 2022

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SAFEPLAN Annual Report to the Legislature

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Executive Summary

SAFEPLAN is Massachusetts's civil court advocacy program that has served domestic and sexual violence victims for the past 28 years. This annual report details the overall impact of the program, statistics reported during Fiscal Year 2022 (FY22), and the ongoing need for SAFEPLAN services.

SAFEPLAN operates as a unique partnership between the Massachusetts Office for Victim Assistance (MOVA), the courts, and 15 community-based domestic violence and sexual assault agencies. During FY2022 (July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022), SAFEPLAN Advocates assisted **12,939 clients (10,865 of which were new clients) and provided 33,361 referrals** to other crucial services. 65 full-time equivalent SAFEPLAN Advocates are stationed in 53 courthouses (39 District Courts and 14 Probate and Family Courts) in 10 counties throughout the state: Barnstable, Berkshire, Bristol, Essex, Franklin, Hampden, Hampshire, Middlesex, Plymouth, and Worcester.

In FY2022, SAFEPLAN was supported through two funding sources: state line item 0840-0101 and a federal grant through the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA). The Legislature allocated \$1,315,788 in state dollars to SAFEPLAN in FY22. In addition to providing direct service to victims, this funding also serves as a necessary match requirement for VOCA federal funding that provides additional support for the program.

Providing SAFEPLAN services in all district and probate and family courts continues to be our long-term goal. In the last several years, the program has been introduced in Essex County and expanded throughout courthouses in Western Massachusetts. As a result of this expansion, a SAFEPLAN advocate is present in every court throughout Berkshire, Hampden, Hampshire, and Franklin Counties. MOVA is seeking an opportunity to expand services in Essex County to both incorporate more courthouses and meet a rising demand for services. Additional state resources will be needed in the FY24 budget to fulfill this need. We look forward to partnering with the Legislature throughout the future to provide SAFEPLAN services in all courts both in existing counties served (Essex and Middlesex) and new counties with no SAFEPLAN services (Dukes, Nantucket, Norfolk, and Suffolk).

Demand for services significantly increased in FY22 compared to previous years when the COVID-19 pandemic challenged the delivery of the SAFEPLAN program. Advocates were able to support 41% more survivors in this fiscal year than FY21 and we anticipate that will be maintained or increased in future years. While many host programs and advocates continue to utilize a hybrid model of service delivery, access to courthouses have remained stable over the last year.

Section 1: SAFEPLAN Program Overview

1.1 What is SAFEPLAN?

The concept behind SAFEPLAN emerged from a 1993 survey of all courts, District Attorneys' Offices, legal service agencies, and community-based domestic violence programs that indicated a need for specialized advocates located in the courts to provide services to victims beyond those of traditional protective orders. In 1995, the Legislature created a line item to establish SAFEPLAN (0840-0101) to fill this gap and better connect victims to community-based resources.

For the past 28 years, the Legislature has remained committed to sustaining these services and expanding them when fiscally possible. In FY16, the Legislature supported an expansion into Essex County and most recently in FY20 invested additional dollars to support SAFEPLAN services in three additional courthouses in Berkshire and Hampden Counties. State line item 0840-0101 funds SAFEPLAN services and equally as important is this line item serves as a match requirement for the Victim of Crime Act (VOCA) federal funding that also supports the program.

1.2 Need for Services

Data from the most recent Centers for Disease Control and Prevention National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey indicates that about 1 in 3 women and 1 in 4 have experienced severe physical violence by an intimate partner (e.g., hit with a fist or something hard, beaten, slammed against something) at some point in their lifetime. With over 10,500 new clients served by SAFEPLAN Advocates in FY22, and over 12,500 total client contacts in the same year, SAFEPLAN Advocates continue to be an essential lifeline for clients facing violent and often life-threatening circumstances.

The complicated, confusing, and volatile nature of these cases cause many victims to arrive at the courthouse in a state of crisis and in imminent fear. Many are unaware of their rights and the options available to them, ambivalent about the court process and the legal system, and fearful that confronting their perpetrator may lead to retaliation or escalating violence. Throughout the entirety of the COVID-19 pandemic, each court has operated differently to provide either in-person or virtual hearings. These operational changes have stimulated added stress factors for victims seeking to access such protections. It is now more critical than ever to have advocates available, either virtually, via phone or, when allowed, in-person while maintaining social distancing, to clarify the ambiguities of the legal system and to be knowledgeable about and sensitive to the safety, medical, sociological, cultural, and psychological issues facing domestic and sexual violence victims.

Statistics from SAFEPLAN intake data in FY22 demonstrate that 57% of new SAFEPLAN clients had no prior contact with a domestic violence or sexual assault program before coming to court. This startling and compelling statistic underscores the critical importance of SAFEPLAN Advocates. They ensure that victims of domestic and sexual violence receive assistance with safety planning and civil advocacy and are a vital entry point and link to a broad continuum of services and resources for victims.

¹ National Center for Injury Prevention and Control. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2022, October 1). The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey: 2016/2017 Report on Intimate Partner Violence.

Victims of crime – particularly domestic and sexual violence victims - may resist using legal avenues to address their safety for a variety of reasons. While the laws have been carefully crafted to be readily accessible to all victims, navigating the legal system is still a monumental effort for many individuals. Research has validated the vital need for advocates at court to assist victims in this process and have found that leaving a battering partner may be the most dangerous time in that relationship. Women are 70 times more likely to be killed in the two weeks after leaving than at any other time during the relationship.²

Victims seeking protection orders are in legitimate fear of further abuse. It is essential that victims seeking protection receive immediate assistance in assessing their risks and developing a personalized safety plan – regardless of whether they ultimately choose to apply for a protective order. As beneficial as the protection order remedy is for many survivors, it may not be what each person would choose, and it can be dangerous if entered into without addressing safety needs. Safety planning is a critical step SAFEPLAN Advocates take with each client at intake and is designed to meet the specific safety needs of each individual client – and advocates remain available to provide follow-up support and modifications as clients’ needs and circumstances evolve over time.

Advocates across the state report that the combination of the ongoing economic climate and financial control at the hands of their abusers has resulted in many victims who are unable to afford to live alone and/or are unable to sustain the needs of their children on their own. The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated financial distress and dependence for many victims by generating increased unemployment for many individuals. In addition, shelter options have become increasingly scarce during the COVID-19 pandemic due to increased need, social-distancing measures, and limits on congregate housing. As a result, many victims of domestic and sexual violence have chosen to remain living with their abusers, and delay obtaining a protective order. SAFEPLAN Advocates provide the client with early intervention options, referrals for additional services, and discuss ways to remain safe in the relationship through the development of an individual safety plan.

Supporting SAFEPLAN services across the state is vital to ensuring that all victims of domestic and sexual violence are able to create a safety plan, assess risks, and receive support and referrals whether they are ready to leave or not.

² Domestic Violence Intervention Program. (2015, January 1). Myths & Facts about Domestic Violence. Retrieved from <http://www.dvpiowa.org/myths-facts-about-domestic-violence/>.

³ Stoeber, J. (2011). Freedom from Violence: Using the Stages of Change Model to Realize the Promise of Civil Protection Orders *Ohio St. Law Journal*, 72 (303).

1.3 Number of Clients Served

During FY22, SAFEPLAN Advocates served **10,865 new clients** across all courts, made **12,939 total client contacts**, and provided **33,361 referrals** to other community-based services (see Appendix A for service data per court and county).

1.4 Types of Incidents Reported by SAFEPLAN Clients

SAFEPLAN clients petition the court for protective orders and must identify reasons for their request based on the *Abuse Prevention Act* (G.L. c. 209A) or an *Act Relative to Harassment Prevention Orders* (G.L. c. 258E). Although these numbers do not accurately reflect the extent of a client's history of violence, **22,030** occurrences of abuse were reported by new SAFEPLAN clients in FY22 – with some clients reporting more than one type of abuse. The following types of abuse were reported:

Types of Incidents Reported	Amount
Attempted Physical Harm (209A)	4,648
Cause Physical Harm (209A)	4,890
Criminal Harassment (258E)	1,235
Imminent Fear (209A)	9,714
Other	161
Sexual Assault (209A)	636
Sexual Assault (258E)	209
Stalking (258E)	537
Grand Total	22,030

1.5 Protective Order Advocacy and Assistance Provided

The types of advocacy services provided by SAFEPLAN Advocates include:

Ex-parte Hearing:

SAFEPLAN Advocates address immediate safety concerns through crisis intervention, assessment of a client's risks, creation of a personalized safety plan, and by ensuring that a victim is aware of the options available to increase safety. Advocates make referrals to other programs and resources based on a client's individual needs. SAFEPLAN Advocates explain the protections available under the 209A and 258E laws, the court process, and assist victims with completing the 209A and 258E application. At the completion of the hearing, the Advocate will explain the provisions of the order, how to confirm the delivery service of an order, when to return for the hearing after notice, and what to do if they suspect the order is being violated.

Emergency Judicial Response (EJR):

SAFEPLAN Advocates assist victims who come into court to extend an emergency protective order issued through the EJR when the courts are closed. Typically, EJR orders are issued through a police department and often the defendant has been arrested or a warrant has been issued. SAFEPLAN Advocates provide these victims with information about the 209A or 258E order, help them develop safety plans, and provide direct referrals to a Victim Witness Advocate who would handle any accompanying criminal cases.

Hearing After Notice:

Victims seeking protective orders initially receive a temporary order that is valid for up to 10 business days. At the end of this 10-day period, both the defendant and the victim are requested to appear at a hearing. If the victim wishes to extend the order beyond the initial 10 days, he/she must appear at this hearing. The hearing after notice is typically intimidating for the victim and is often confrontational. Without the support of a SAFEPLAN Advocate, victims are often reluctant to continue the protective order beyond the initial stage. Continued protective orders can contribute to increased safety for victims and their children and stronger sanctions against those who violate the orders. When it is safe, SAFEPLAN Advocates will call victims to remind them of their hearing date, answer questions, modify the safety plan if needed, and prepare them for their appearance in front of a judge.

Extension:

In-court advocacy is provided to victims seeking to extend a protective order beyond one year. Victims who request a protective order for longer than one year may still be facing an abusive situation and in need of advocacy services.

Modification:

SAFEPLAN Advocates are available to assist victims seeking to modify an existing order as circumstances change or as an alternative to terminating the entire order.

Termination:

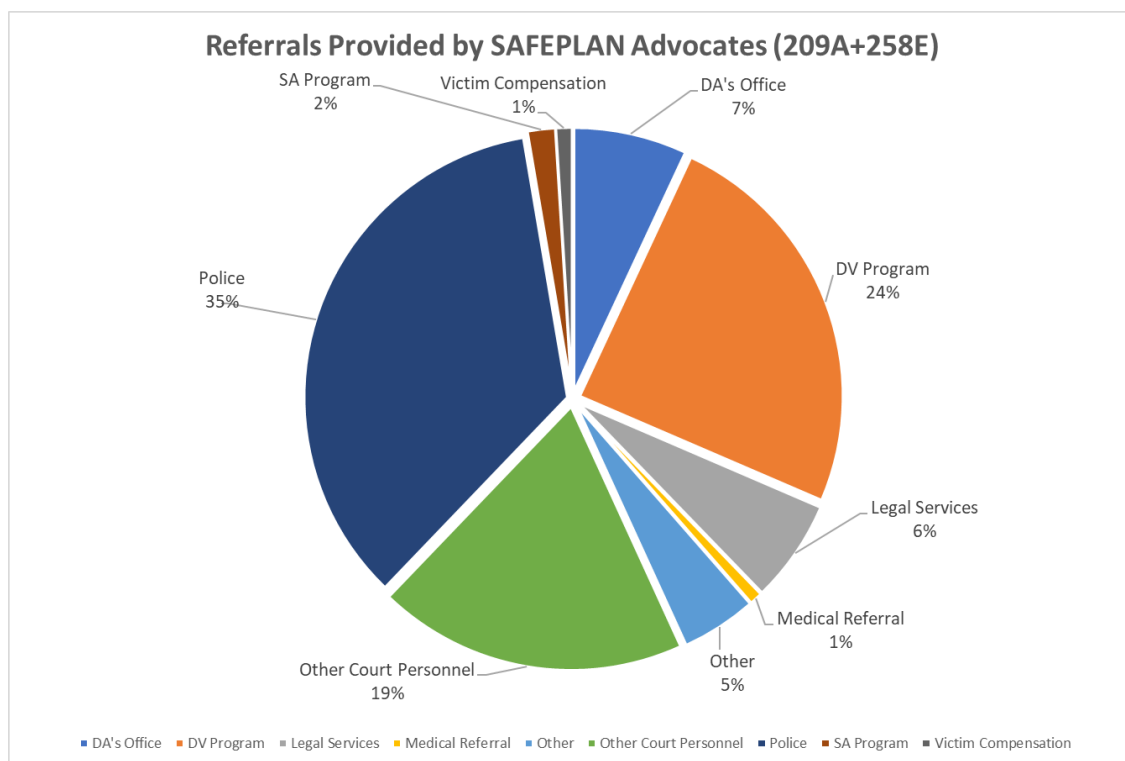
SAFEPLAN Advocates also work with victims who choose to terminate their protective order. It is especially critical that Advocates provide services to these victims since they are often choosing to reconcile with their abusive partners. Victims in these situations require specialized safety planning that can help them remain safe while continuing to have contact with their abuser. SAFEPLAN Advocates offer information on options that will address the victims' concerns while leaving some protections in place (i.e. terminate the stay away order but not the refrain from abuse provision).

*NOTE: It was affirmed by judges and court staff that Advocates are particularly useful in these instances when they can "sit down with a plaintiff and determine why she/he is making the request (to terminate), to ascertain that she/he understands the implications of terminating the order, and to discuss whether or not there might be some other solution that would address the parties' concerns."*⁴

1.6 Referrals Facilitated

SAFEPLAN data from FY22 demonstrates that **57% of SAFEPLAN clients had no prior contact with a domestic violence or sexual assault program before coming to court.** Research supports and reaffirms the importance of early advocate intervention, “the early involvement of an advocate trained in domestic violence would enable a survivor to better progress through the states of change as he/she struggles with definitional questions about domestic violence and seeks out information, resources, and ways to achieve safety and independence.” This underscores the critical importance of SAFEPLAN Advocates.

SAFEPLAN clients are provided a host of referrals to additional service providers in the community based on each client’s individual situation, needs, and requests. SAFEPLAN Advocates provided **33,361** referrals for services during FY22 to providers, including local domestic and sexual violence service agencies, police departments, District Attorneys’ Offices, civil legal services, and other governmental and community-based services.



⁴Administrative Office of the Trial Court. *Report of the Domestic Violence Court Assessment Project, Progress and Challenges: Viewpoints on the Trial Court’s Response to Domestic Violence*, August 2003.

⁵Stoeber, J. (2011). Freedom from Violence: Using the Stages of Change Model to Realize the Promise of Civil Protection Orders. *Ohio St. Law Journal*, 72 (303).

Referrals to Local Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Agencies:

SAFEPLAN Advocates make referrals to domestic violence programs (including their own host agency) to connect clients with a variety of services including:

- ♦ Emergency shelter;
- ♦ Transitional housing;
- ♦ Individual counseling (adult and child);
- ♦ Support groups; and
- ♦ Emergency aid – food/clothing, transportation assistance, etc.

Sexual assault program referrals provide clients with a variety of sexual assault specific services including:

- ♦ Medical advocacy;
- ♦ Legal advocacy;
- ♦ Individual counseling (adult and child);
- ♦ Support groups; and
- ♦ Case management.

Referrals to Police:

SAFEPLAN Advocates may refer a client to the police department or provide contact information for a particular officer so that the client can confirm service of an order, file a criminal complaint, arrange for pickup of the abuser's personal belongings, or retrieve their own belongings among other services.

Referrals to District Attorneys' Offices:

The referral to a Victim Witness Advocate (VWA) is particularly important when criminal charges are pending or being considered. A SAFEPLAN Advocate may refer a client to the DA's Office/VWA for the following reasons:

- To discuss the possibility of criminal charges as a result of their abuse;
- To seek information about a pending criminal case;
- To obtain information about their rights as victims; or
- For any other services the VWA can provide such as bail notification.

Referrals to Legal Services:

SAFEPLAN clients, especially those with children, often have legal issues beyond the protective order process. Legal assistance may be necessary for clients seeking a protective order who also have issues related to housing, education, immigration, among others. SAFEPLAN Advocates have established strong relationships with a variety of legal services programs throughout the state which has enabled victims to secure legal assistance through a direct referral from a SAFEPLAN Advocate. This support is crucial for victims of domestic violence and/or sexual assault who have been isolated from family and friends and now must confront their abuser alone.

Other Referrals:

Referrals are also made to other agencies and service providers including, but not limited to: the Department of Transitional Assistance, Department of Children and Families, Address Confidentiality Program, Department of Revenue – Child Support Enforcement, mental health and/or substance abuse services, soup kitchens and food pantries, Massachusetts Parole Board – Victim Services Unit, and the Attorney General's Office - Victim Compensation Division.

Section 2: SAFEPLAN Administration, Partnerships, and Funding

2.1 Massachusetts Office for Victim Assistance (MOVA) SAFEPLAN Administration

MOVA was established by the enactment of the Massachusetts Victim Bill of Rights (G.L. c. 258B) in 1984 and has administered SAFEPLAN since 1995. Day-to-day programmatic and fiscal responsibilities include:

- ♦ Implementing the SAFEPLAN Certification Training curriculum;
- ♦ Developing bi-annual continuing education sessions for advocates;
- ♦ Facilitating quarterly Advocate meetings/trainings for each region;
- ♦ Ensuring the coordination of services between SAFEPLAN host agencies, the courts, and District Attorneys' offices;
- ♦ Evaluating and maintaining the SAFEPLAN statistical database;
- ♦ Ensuring compliance with grant guidelines and programmatic requirements through site visits, monitoring program performance, and reviewing and approving expenditure reports;
- ♦ Forecasting and allocating funding and monitoring budgets; and
- ♦ Preparing annual and/or quarterly reports to the Legislature and federal funders.

A. SAFEPLAN Certification and Training Process

To become a certified SAFEPLAN Advocate, SAFEPLAN host program advocates, interns, and volunteers must complete the SAFEPLAN Certification Training - a four-day, virtual curriculum provided by MOVA, and fulfill a minimum of 20 hours shadowing a certified SAFEPLAN Advocate in court. In addition, advocates must also complete their host agency's domestic violence training designed to meet the requirements under G.L. c. 233, § 20K. For dual agencies (domestic violence and sexual assault), advocates must also complete the sexual assault counselor training designed to meet the requirements under G.L. c. 233, § 20J. Additionally, SAFEPLAN Advocates are provided ongoing training opportunities by MOVA through quarterly regional meetings and bi-annual continuing education sessions.

The certification process, regional meetings, and bi-annual continuing education trainings have all shifted to a virtual platform as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The material presented to the participants remained the same with a continued emphasis on necessary modifications that were made to address technology privacy and confidentiality while working remotely.

B. Data Collection and Record Keeping

SAFEPLAN Advocates collect demographic information and track services provided for each client using a client tracking log. Data for 209A Restraining Orders and 258E Harassment Protection Orders are collected and reported separately. Advocates compile the data, submit standard statistical forms and provide summaries of the data to MOVA on a monthly basis. Identifying client information is confidential and not transmitted to MOVA. In addition, all SAFEPLAN funded agencies abide by the Commonwealth Terms & Conditions for Human and Social Services to maintain records related to their funding for a period of seven years.

2.2 SAFEPLAN Program Partnerships in the Courts

Through the provision of consistent quality services and working collaboratively with court staff, SAFEPLAN Advocates have built solid relationships with court personnel. The utilization of SAFEPLAN Advocates was noted as a preferred practice in both ex- parte protective order hearings and hearings after notice in the *“Guidelines for Judicial Practice: Abuse Prevention Proceedings”* published by the Executive Office of the Trial Court in October 1996, and later revised in September 2011. **Guideline 3:09: Role of Advocates at Ex Parte Hearings** and **Guideline 5:02: Role of Advocates at a Hearing after Notice**, both note that trained advocates play an important role in supporting the party through the hearing and assisting the party in providing the court with all relevant information.

2.3 MOVA Fiscal Management

As the state authority responsible for overseeing SAFEPLAN funds, and in addition to providing program management, MOVA conducts on-site monitoring, provides annual grant guidelines trainings, ongoing technical assistance, and monitors program performance of all subgrantees. MOVA also implements a high-quality training program for SAFEPLAN Advocates, interns and volunteers throughout their contracts to keep host agencies abreast of legal, policy, and professional practice developments.

SAFEPLAN program staff at the host agencies and MOVA program coordinators maintain an open line of communication through the use of a listserv/Constant Contact, site visits, quarterly regional meetings, Senior SAFEPLAN Advocate meetings, and distribution of a regularly updated policies and procedures manual.

2.4 SAFEPLAN Funding

A. State Line Item 0840-0101

SAFEPLAN first received funding in the FY1997 General Appropriations Act and since then has been the primary source of funding for direct service positions for the program. Funding in FY22 remained level from the previous year at \$1,315,788 although the demand increased significantly. MOVA continues to monitor the demand as well as reductions in federal funding that helps support the program to inform our funding needs for FY23, FY24, and beyond.

B. Victims of Crime Act (VOCA)

As a result of federal funding cuts to our Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) grants, MOVA has had to reduce federal support of the SAFEPLAN program. In FY22, approximately \$2,648,965.60 in VOCA funding was allocated to support SAFEPLAN, representing an approximate 18% cut from previous levels of support in FY21. In addition to SAFEPLAN, VOCA supports other crime victim service programs across the state and many of those programs rely on VOCA as their sole source of direct funding. In addition to SAFEPLAN, MOVA supported over 120 programs in whole or in part with VOCA funding in FY22.

Section 3: Moving Beyond the COVID-19 Pandemic

The COVID-19 pandemic created or exacerbated many challenges to victims seeking protection orders. Housing and shelter availability, privacy concerns, access to basic necessities and healthcare, and the unpredictability of court closures all impacted the delivery of services for survivors and SAFEPLAN advocates. As the courts, society, and community programming has slowly shifted to a “new normal”, MOVA has witnessed the demand for services increase as well as the way in which services are provided evolve.

Survivors accessing SAFEPLAN services throughout FY20 and FY21 dropped as courts closed to the public and virtual hearing were far more common. MOVA does not believe this drop was indicative of a reduction of violence, and therefore we have seen the need increase in the last fiscal year as previous barriers were lifted. Advocates were able to support 41% more survivors in this fiscal year than FY21 and we anticipate that will be maintained or increased in future years. While many host programs and advocates continue to utilize a hybrid model of service delivery, access to courthouses have remained stable over the last year.

As a result of such increased demand, MOVA is seeking additional state funding to add a stronger presence in Essex County so that each courthouse will be supported by a SAFEPLAN advocate. MOVA believes this will increase equity in the area so that regardless of where a victim must request a protective order, they will have access to a trained advocate that has the same high-quality service delivery as other parts of the county. We are optimistic that by closing existing gaps in Essex County, we can begin to focus on introducing SAFEPLAN to new parts of the Commonwealth in future years.

Appendix A: Statewide, County, and Court Statistical Tables

STATEWIDE TOTALS: July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022

In FY22, SAFEPLAN Advocates assisted a total of **12,939** clients (**10,865** of which were new clients) and provided **33,361** referrals. The following charts detail these service numbers by courts and counties served.

**The following statistics are combined 209A and 258E, unless listed as a Probate & Family Court, which does not have jurisdiction over 258E.*

County	Number of New Clients	Number of New Clients w/out Prior DVP Contact	Number of Total Client Contacts
Barnstable	1065	780	1221
Berkshire	714	424	869
Bristol	1435	1198	1696
Essex	1823	661	1979
Franklin	241	83	263
Hampden	965	748	1191
Hampshire	247	221	308
Middlesex	54	43	56
Plymouth	1865	1382	2330
Worcester	2456	1893	3026
Grand Total	10865	7433	12939

Barnstable County

Court	Number of New Clients	Number of New Clients w/out Prior DVP Contact	Number of Total Client Contacts
Barnstable District Court	466	371	544
Barnstable Family and Probate	132	48	159
Falmouth District Court	227	204	260
Orleans District Court	240	157	258
Grand Total	1065	780	1221

Berkshire County

Court	Number of New Clients	Number of New Clients w/out Prior DVP Contact	Number of Total Client Contacts
Berkshire Family and Probate	108	57	142
Central Berkshire District	293	219	329

Northern Berkshire District – North Adams	225	106	283
Southern Berkshire District – Great Barrington	88	42	115
Grand Total	714	424	869

Bristol County

Court	Number of New Clients	Number of New Clients w/out Prior DVP Contact	Number of Total Client Contacts
Attleboro District Court	153	136	228
Bristol Probate & Family – New Bedford	1	1	2
Bristol Probate & Family – Fall River	65	57	68
Bristol Probate & Family - Taunton	175	122	228
Fall River District Court	798	784	844
New Bedford 3 rd District Court	119	55	190
Taunton District Court	124	43	136
Grand Total	1435	1198	1696

Essex County

Court	Number of New Clients	Number of New Clients w/out Prior DVP Contact	Number of Total Client Contacts
Essex Probate & Family- Lawrence	15	8	15
Essex Probate & Family- Salem	49	20	56
Haverhill District Court	374	31	383
Lawrence District Court	306	13	323
Lynn District Court	726	419	795
Salem District Court	353	170	407
Grand Total	1823	661	1979

Franklin County

Court	Number of New Clients	Number of New Clients w/out Prior DVP Contact	Number of Total Client Contacts
Franklin Probate and Family	49	24	53
Greenfield District Court	105	41	111
Orange District Court	87	18	99
Grand Total	241	83	263

Hampden County

Court	Number of New Clients	Number of New Clients w/out Prior DVP Contact	Number of Total Client Contacts
Chicopee District Court	102	70	118
Hampden Probate & Family	186	133	202
Holyoke District Court	281	235	335
Palmer District Court	231	208	321
Springfield District Court	90	48	118
Westfield District Court	75	54	97
Grand Total	965	748	1191

Hampshire County

Court	Number of New Clients	Number of New Clients w/out Prior DVP Contact	Number of Total Client Contacts
Eastern Hampshire District Court	93	65	103
Hampshire Probate Court	19	28	61
Hampshire District Court	135	128	144
Grand Total	247	221	308

Middlesex County

Court	Number of New Clients	Number of New Clients w/out Prior DVP Contact	Number of Total Client Contacts
Ayer District Court	40	37	42
Middlesex Probate & Family	14	6	14
Grand Total	54	43	56

Plymouth County

Court	Number of New Clients	Number of New Clients w/out Prior DVP Contact	Number of Total Client Contacts
Brockton District Court	964	659	1171
Hingham District Court	117	90	142
Plymouth Probate & Family - Brockton	128	51	153
Plymouth District Court	271	236	333
Plymouth Probate & Family - Plymouth	119	81	155
Wareham District Court	266	265	376
Grand Total	1865	1382	2330

Worcester County

Court	Number of New Clients	Number of New Clients w/out Prior DVP Contact	Number of Total Client Contacts
Clinton District Court	57	48	75
Dudley District	199	96	217
East Brookfield District	345	265	391
Fitchburg District Court	129	109	147
Gardner District Court	253	173	369
Leominster District Court	225	141	362
Milford District	214	203	259
Uxbridge District	180	143	206
Westborough District	120	40	140
Winchendon District Court	132	97	197
Worcester District Court	523	506	577
Worcester Family and Probate	79	72	86
Grand Total	2456	1893	3026

SAFEPLAN Programs and Courts in Massachusetts

New England Learning Center for Women in Transition

Elizabeth Freeman Center

- Berkshire Probate and Family Court
- Northern Berkshire District Court (North Adams)
- Southern Berkshire District Court (Great Barrington)

Womanshelter/Compañeras

- Hampden County Probate and Family Court
- Chicopee District Court
- Holyoke District Court

YWCA Northeastern Massachusetts

Healing Abuse for Working Change

- Worcester County Probate and Family Court
- Worcester District Court
- Clinton District Court
- Fitchburg District Court
- Gardner District Court
- Leominster District Court
- Winchendon District Court
- Ayer District Court

YWCA of Central Massachusetts

- Franklin County Probate and Family Court
- Greenfield District Court
- Orange District Court

Greater Boston Legal Services

- Middlesex County Probate and Family Court
- Essex Probate and Family Court (Lynn)

Health Imperatives

- Brockton District Court
- Brockton County Probate and Family Court (Brockton)

South Shore Resource and Advocacy Center

- Plymouth County Probate and Family Court (Plymouth)
- Hingham District Court
- Plymouth District Court
- Wareham District Court

Independence House

- Barnstable Probate and Family Court
- Barnstable District Court
- Falmouth District Court
- Orleans District Court

New Bedford Women's Center

- Bristol County Probate and Family Court (New Bedford)
- New Bedford District Court

Stanley Street Treatment and Resource Center

- Bristol County Probate and Family Court (Fall River)
- Fall River District Court

New Hope

- Attleboro District Court
- Taunton District Court
- East Brookfield District Court
- Dudley District Court
- Westborough District Court
- Milford District Court
- Uxbridge District Court
- Bristol Probate and Family Court (Taunton)

YWCA of Western Massachusetts

- Hampshire County Probate and Family Court
- Eastern Hampshire District Court (Belchertown)
- Northampton District Court
- Westfield District Court

Total number of agencies: 14

Domestic Violence Only: 8

Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault: 6

